



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5345

February Session, 2004

* _____ HB05345APP _____ 040704 _____ *

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PILOT PROGRAM FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Children
2 and Families may accept grants to create a two-year pilot program for
3 the adoption of two hundred special needs children, as defined in
4 section 17a-116 of the general statutes, and to reduce the time for such
5 an adoption to be finalized from forty-eight months to twenty-four
6 months. The commissioner shall establish the pilot program in
7 cooperation with the following agencies: The Jewish Family Services of
8 New Haven, The Village for Families and Children and Children and
9 Families Agency Inc. For purposes of the pilot program, such agencies
10 shall develop and implement strategies to reduce the time between the
11 removal of a special needs child from his or her home and a finalized
12 adoption.

13 (b) The Department of Children and Families shall conduct an
14 independent evaluation of the pilot program and report, in accordance
15 with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
16 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
17 matters relating to human services and to the select committee of the
18 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children,
19 not later than January 15, 2007.

This act shall take effect as follows:
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
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<i>KID</i>	<i>Joint Favorable Subst. C/R</i>	HS
<i>HS</i>	<i>Joint Favorable Subst.</i>	
<i>APP</i>	<i>Joint Favorable</i>	